

274 SOCIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE ADEN PROTECTORATE

080 or whether it would be necessary for the British to go into some of the lawless districts and administer them more directly. In connection with this point Major Hamilton had given them much food for thought.

● [207] A question about broadcasting was referred by Major Hamilton to Mr. J. GOEPEL. Mr. Goepel said there was a certain amount of broadcasting from Aden. The Navy maintained about twelve wireless sets in the chief centres, but from the ordinary person's point of view there was no broadcasting. Taking England as a comparison, it would mean that there would be half a dozen sets in Westminster, four sets in Edinburgh, and perhaps one at York and Ely, and that was all.

080 The CHAIRMAN emphasized the point made by Major Hamilton and Dr. Scott that peoples went forward or backward; they were not static. That was true of all civilizations, but it was especially true of some peoples who were not, so far, as civilized as others. He himself was an optimist with regard to the Arabs of those countries where he had lived and worked, and he believed they were going forward rather than backward. He hoped this would also be true of both the Arabs and the non-Arabs in the Aden Protectorate.

He thought Major Hamilton's remarks with regard to tribal customs were extremely interesting. If tribal customs were taken away the whole foundation would disintegrate. If the customs of civilized peoples were destroyed, the same would happen to them; only the law would remain to hold them together; and these tribal people had not even the law.

On the question of women, he and his wife were once talking to a British Consul in Syria about work among Moslems in Arab countries, and the Consul had said to his wife: "I assure you that a woman—the right kind of woman—can do more in three months than her husband as political officer can do in three years."

They had listened to an extremely interesting lecture, for which they were most grateful to Major Hamilton; this was his second lecture, and he was sure they would all agree when he said that he hoped some day Major Hamilton would give them a third.

(A few slides were shown illustrating the different types of men and apparel.)

hospitality in the new house during the past year, and last hot weather nothing 000
 was more delightful than to sit in the swimming pool in the evening and listen
 to the strains of the B.B.C. Empire Orchestra. Since then the Arabic broad-
 casts have started and they are extremely popular throughout the Hadhramaut, [507] ●
 which now sets its watches by Big Ben. Bathing over, dinner would be laid
 on carpets by the side of the bathing pool. One rarely sits down less than
 twenty at meals in Seiyid Bubekr's house and very often it is forty. The
 average daily consumption runs into about 30 to 40 lb. of rice, three or four
 dozen eggs, half a dozen chickens, and one or two sheep, and several pounds
 of vegetables. We went up for the wedding of his daughter, and then over
 five thousand people were fed for three days.

Seiyun has been our principal headquarters in the wadi, and from it I
 have continually visited all the neighbouring places, staying at Shibam, [602]
 Al Qatn, Henin, Qa'udha, and Hureidha. You never get to Hureidha without
 stopping for a meal at Diyar al Buqri, where the people are so hospitable that
 they have been known to fire on those who have attempted to pass in cars
 without stopping to have a meal. The Buqri are Nahd, and although they
 are settled they are still rather Badu. On my first visit they offered us a large
 house if we would but stay and rule the country, and it was then I learned
 that they had imported a first-class cook from Java in the hope of being able
 to entertain Europeans. Great as is the hospitality and kindness of all the
 Nahd, the meals at Diyar al Buqri are as fine and as varied as anything you
 could get anywhere. Their ideas even of afternoon tea are on the most lavish
 scale. I have had it with them three times and on each occasion they have
 produced cakes, honey, and halwa, several varieties of tinned fruit, British
 biscuits, and super-cream toffees.

Beyond Diyar al Buqri, as you enter the Wadi 'Amd, stands a little fort 712
 with a sentry for ever gazing out. It was some time before I discovered that 619
 the sentry was a dummy, a lump of clay artistically draped with a black
 cloth, but in recent months I notice he has fallen into disrepair. The Nahd
 extend down into the Wadi 'Amd almost as far as Hureidha, of which the
 population consists entirely of Seiyids of the Al 'Attas family and their
 dependants. Here, too, I have several times stayed, and there is now a land- 080
 ing-ground. There is no need for me to say much about Hureidha as it is
 here that Miss Stark, Miss Caton-Thompson and Miss Gardner have been
 wintering. One interesting fact about Hureidha may however be too trivial
 for their notice, and that is that one of the mosques has two large town clocks,
 one with a face 6 feet in diameter and the other 3 feet. Only the latter works,
 and they are of course at the top of the high minaret. But they are inside
 the minaret, and you have to walk up sixty or seventy steps to see the time.

Up the wadi from Hureidha is the Ja'da tribe. I have not travelled farther 619
 up the wadi than Hureidha on foot, but before I went there for peace negotia- 361
 tions my wife did the journey on camel. The wadi is thickly populated and 628
 has numerous small villages which at that time were nearly all at war with 241
 each other. My wife took down particulars of thirty-two major feuds going
 on between sections and even between houses a few yards apart. There were
 trench systems, similar to those at Qa'udha, leading from the houses to the
 fields, but owing to the disturbed conditions cultivation had suffered badly
 AND THERE WAS A GENERAL DESIRE FOR PEACE IN ORDER TO GET ON
 WITH THE WORK IN THE FIELDS.